

4S/EASST Conference 2012
Copenhagen Business School, 17th to 20th October 2012

**Participatory design and feminist interventions.
Emancipatory potentials of public engagement.**

Andrea*s Jackie Klaura
<jackie@diebin.at>

<http://jackie.noblogs.org>



“I consider the postulate 'to maximize experience' the supreme law of scientific thinking. Thus, once the possibility of such comparative epistemology arises, it becomes a duty to carry it out.”

(Fleck 1979, 51)



“how to have simultaneously an account of radical historical contingency for all knowledge claims and knowing subjects, a critical practice for recognizing our own ‘semiotic technologies’ for making meanings, and a no-nonsense commitment to faithful accounts of a ‘real’ world, one that can be partially shared and friendly to earth-wide projects of finite freedom, adequate material abundance, modest meaning in suffering, and limited happiness.”

(Haraway 1991, 187)



Participatory Design (PD)

“At the core of Participatory Design is the direct involvement of people in the co-design of tools, products, environments, businesses, and social institutions.”

(Robertson and Simonsen 2012, 3)



Participatory Design (PD)

“At the core of Participatory Design is the direct involvement of people in the co-design of tools, products, environments, businesses, and social institutions.”

(Robertson and Simonsen 2012, 3)

“a marginalized utopian approach, enacted at the cornerstones of neoliberal user-driven design.”

the collective designer (Ehn)



Participatory Design (PD)

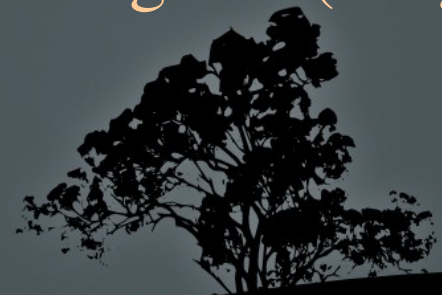
“At the core of Participatory Design is the direct involvement of people in the co-design of tools, products, environments, businesses, and social institutions.”

(Robertson and Simonsen 2012, 3)

“a marginalized utopian approach, enacted at the cornerstones of neoliberal user-driven design.”

the collective designer (Ehn)

“Design is decision making, is the exercise of power. Participatory Design is the sharing of this power with participants and users.” other collective designers (Wagner & Bratteteig)



Participatory Design motives

“Better systems. I think this is a rather simple answer. To just develop systems that are really supporting their users. (...) What are better systems? Here we probably would say that this is only exposed in the use situation. Of course then value questions will be exposed.” (I2 R.14)



Participatory Design motives

“Better systems. I think this is a rather simple answer. To just develop systems that are really supporting their users. (...) What are better systems? Here we probably would say that this is only exposed in the use situation. Of course then value questions will be exposed.” (I2 R.14)

“[Our] goal is better accounts of the world, that is, 'science'”
(Haraway 1991, 196)



translating situated knowledges and practices

“First of all the different perspectives of the participants have to be negotiated. Because those are not per se compatible from the start. So, it is about developing a common view, or to develop something where different views have place.” (I2 R.10)



translating situated knowledges and practices

“First of all the different perspectives of the participants have to be negotiated. Because those are not per se compatible from the start. So, it is about developing a common view, or to develop something where different views have place.” (I2 R.10)

“The [design artefact] provides a space for ‘mixing realities’ that can be viewed and evaluated together.”

(Wagner et al. 2009, 193)



Conclusions

- Feminist epistemology as starting point for both, development of technoscientific artefacts and STS reflections upon these processes.



Conclusions

- Feminist epistemology as starting point for both, development of technoscientific artefacts and STS reflections upon these processes.
- PD implements and experiments with socially responsible research practices



Conclusions

- Feminist epistemology as starting point for both, development of technoscientific artefacts and STS reflections upon these processes.
- PD implements and experiments with socially responsible research practices
- PD's struggle as rich and generative space for STS research



Conclusions

- Feminist epistemology as starting point for both, development of technoscientific artefacts and STS reflections upon these processes.
- PD implements and experiments with socially responsible research practices
- PD's struggle as rich and generative space for STS research
- While PD learns a lot from STS, the latter might start to take up insights from the former too.



critique / feedback / advice



Andrea*s Jackie Klaura – jackie@diebin.at

Research Blog: <http://jackie.noblogs.org>

this presentation including the transcript and full references
will also be available on the blog

